MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 AUGUST 1981

Libya

Tripoli radio reported a military spokesman as saying two Libyan aircraft on a routine reconnaissance flight were intercepted and fired on by eight U.S. Air Force aircraft in Libyan skies and over Libyan territorial waters.

Earlier, Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland radio carried a statement by the Popular Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau saying that U.S. 6th Fleet maneuvers, which began on 17 August, are taking place in waters that include part of Libya's Gulf of Sidra. The statement asserted that Libya considers this a violation of national sovereignty and that it reserves the right to take all measures necessary to safeguard Libyan airspace and territorial waters. JANA, citing NEWSWEEK, said that the maneuvers were to coicide with Egyptian military exercises along the Libyan-Egyptian border. JANA also cited NEWSWEEK as describing the maneuvers as the Reagan administration's first direct challenge to the Libyan revolution after months of debating how to assassinate Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhahafi.

Iran

Hijacked Gunboat--Paris radio reported that the hijacked Iranian gunboat arrived in Marseilles and was then towed to Toulon, where it anchored early on 19 August. Although the radio noted that the hijackers and crew surrendered and left the vessel after neogitating with the French authorities, who refused to refuel the boat, AFP later reported that five commandos remained on board. AFP also cited a spokesman for Azadegan, the commandos' organization, as identifying the leader of the hijackers as former Adm Kamal Habibollahi. France has proposed granting political asylum to the hijackers, Paris radio said, and will repatriate those sailors who wish to return to Iran. In remarks broadcast by the radio, an Azadegan spokesman asserted that the hijackers had wanted to return the boat to France--a claim the radio described as a lie. The Azadegan spokesman also said the hijacking presaged future actions that will be "even more efficacious." In a statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Iran, former Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar called on all exiles from the Iranian Armed Forces, Gendarmerie and Police to join forces with the secretariat of the Azadegan leader, Gen Bahram Aryana.

Tehran radio boradcast an interview with Foreign Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in which he said that France would be legalizing piracy and terrorism if it granted asylum to the hijackers. If France does not hand them over to Iran, he warned, it would be giving the go-ahead for attacks on its own shipping lanes. Musavi also reiterated Iran's claim that the CIA had a hand in the hijacking.

Arrests, Assassinations--According to Tehran radio, revolution guards arrested 33 leftists in Ilam, Qazvin and Kazerun. The radio also reported that terrorists assassinated two doctors in the Kurdish city of Mahabad.

Khomeyni on Exiles, Bani-Sadr Plan--In a speech by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni dismissed as "drivel" the possibility that exiles in Paris might stage a comeback and seize power in Iran. However, he warned his audience that while the exiles themselves count for nothing, the United States intends to use them against the Islamic Republic.

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio reported that Iraqi long-range artillery shelled Ahvaz, Shadegan and Dezful, killing a number of civilians. According to an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by INA, Iraqi forward units attacked Iranian forces in the Dezful region, forcing them to retreat and killing 143.

Reaction to Planes for Israel

Beirut radio reported Lebanese Tourism Minister Marwan Hamadah as telling the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon of his resentment and regret over the U.S. decision to resume delivery of F-15 aircraft to Israel.

Cairo radio cited an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official source as saying that the important thing is that Israel honor its pledge to the United States not to use the planes to commit aggression.

A statement made by Arab League Secretary General Cheoli Klibi, reported by Tunis radio, said Israel's declaration that it made no promises to the United States in return for resuming delivery of the aircraft means that all hopes arising from the suspension have dissipated and that the United States will be to a large extent responsible if the Lebanese cease-fire is violated.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine Radio, citing Arabic newspapers, reported that a PLO spokesman in Beirut described the delivery as promoting Israeli aggression and said it signifies U.S. Government hostility toward the Palestinian people.

A Damascus radio commentary called the decision encouragement for Israel to undermine the cease-fire in Lebanon.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL REITERATES IMPORTANCE OF SOVIET ASSISTANCE

LD182100 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council to mark the 62d anniversary of the restoration of Afghan independence--date and place not specified; live or recorded]

[Excerpt] The old enemies of the prosperity and freedom of our people, throwing themselves under the foul, criminal and shameful skirt of imperialism, want to draw our country into the swamp of backwardness, annihilation and dependence upon colonialism and imperialism. The undeclared war against our people, which has been unleashed and is continuing by way of Pakistan and Iran, by international imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism and its Chinese collaborators, has no other aim but the elimination of the independence and the national sovereignty of our country--this proud ancient land of ours--and the elimination of our people's revolutionary gains. Our people, with fraternal unity and united revolutionary action,have risen against this treacherous aggression of reaction, hegemonism and imperialism, and are defending the beloved homeland and the gains of the revolution.

We are not isolated in this just and hard struggle. Just as the young Soviet Republic--under the leadership of V.I. Lenin, the great friend of Eastern nations, toiling Muslims and Afghanistan--was the first country to officially recognize the independence of our country after its restoration and extended th hand of assistance to our people, so today it is the great Soviet Union which helps us in our just struggle against the aggression and interference of imperialism, regional reaction and hegemonism.

The Soviet Union, extending timely assistance in response to the request of the legal and empowered state and party authorities of the DRA, helped our people in the decisive defense of our independence and national sovereignty in the most troublesome moments of our country's history, and have rendered the greatest historical service to our people. If the timely and fraternal aid of the Soviet Union had not been extended to us, nothing would be left today of Afghan independence. The enemies distort this historic assistance and very shamefully distort the facts in this regard. But history will witness that the independence of our homeland was saved from harmful alien aggression by the will of the heroic Afghan people with the help of our Soviet brothers, and it is now being consolidated.

TRAVEL FACILITIES FOR PILGRIMS TO MECCA SOUGHT

LD132212 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Aug 81

[Announcement by DRA Department of Islamic Affairs; date not given]

[Text] As our religious compatriots are aware, the Government of Saudi Arabia some days ago recalled the charge d'affaires and members of its staff in Kabul. The personnel of this embassy, disregarding all regulations and standards of communication, and without informing the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs, abandoned the soil of Afghanistan and closed the gate of the embassy.

The Saudi Arabian authorities then announced through the media their unilateral break of diplomatic relations. After this decision and after a fairly long lapse, the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs was informed through the French Embassy in Kabul that it had been asked to look after Saudi Arabian interests in Afghanistan.

Apparently, the subject of Afghan pilgrims, who eagerly go to Saudi Arabia to fulfill the pilgrimage injunction, was taken under consideration at the first stage and the political director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs drew the attention of the charge d'affaires of the French Embassy in Kabul to the importance of this subject and matters relating to the pilgrims of the house of Allah.

The Department of Islamic Affairs raised the issue with the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to ensure that Afghan pilgrims do not face difficulties. In consideration of priority and time sensitivity, the Consulate Department of this ministry made official contacts with the French Embassy in Kabul about the travel of Afghan pilgrims on 8, 12, 21 and 26 July, and on 5 and 10 August. The charge d'affaires and consul of the French Embassy in Kabul were even summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the issue was emphasized.

The personnel of the French Embassy in Kabul replied that so far they have no knowledge about pilgrimage questions, that they are in contact with Saudi Arabian authorities and have asked for additional assistance from Saudi Arabia for matters relating to Afghan pilgrims.

Despite repeated contacts, this embassy has not yet given a final answer to the authorities concerning the question of the journey of Afghan pilgrims.

The DRA Department of Islamic Affairs, in view of its responsibilities for the fulfillment of religious teachings and obligations of faith, seeking channels and efforts are underway for sending Afghan pilgrims with the cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other Afghan authorities. Unfortunately, however, the French Embassy in Kabul, which accepted responsibility as the guardian of Saudi Arabian interests, has not yet given a final reply to this particular subject and has left us waiting.

In spite of this, it is feared that [word indistinct] and lack of consideration by the responsible authorities of Saudi Arabia confronts Afghan pilgrims to Mecca with diffculties, for all of which the Saudi Arabian authorities must bear responsibility.

The Department of Islamic Affairs is [word indistinct] all religious compatriots who are preparing to fulfill the pilgrimage injunction, to wait for a later announcement regarding the creation of travel facilities in Saudi Arabia.

KARMAL CABLES REDDY ON INDIA'S NATIONAL DAY

LD160545 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] Kabul, 15 Aug (BAKHTAR)--Following is the text of the congratulatory telegram sent by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to Delhi, addressed to His Excellency Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of the Republic of India, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the people of India.

On behalf of the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and on my own behalf, I have the pleasure to express the most sincere congratulations to Your Excellency, and through you to the people of India, on the eve of the Independence Day of the people of that country.

"I am confident that the historic, traditional friendship and mutual cooperation between the DRA and the Republic of India will develop and expand continuously in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and for the benefit of the consolidation of peace and security in the region of Asia and the world.

"I extend my best wishes for the good health of Your Excellency, together with my good wishes for the progress and further prosperity and welfare of the friendly people of India."

PRESIDENT RECEIVES VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL 18 AUG

LD181740 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Dra Revolutionary Council, received this afternoon Vo Dong Giang [as heard], deputy minister of the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The two sides exchanged views on topics of interest in a friendly and sincere atmosphere.

Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, and Nguyen Sy Hoat, ambassador of the SRV in Kabul, were present at the talks.

LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES ARRESTED

LD182032 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The country's heroic security force, the defender of the values of the Sawr Revolution, is standing as a strong bastion against heretical elements linked with U.S. imperialism, the great devil of the century. It dealt fatal and crushing blows to the counterrevolutionary mercenaries infiltrated [word indistinct] from abroad, in the Enjil and Godzara districts and Sieoshan and (Sarwastan) regions, Herat Province; the Bagram District, Parwan Province; and in Qarabagh District, Kabul Province.

A spokesman for the security force reported that murderers and criminals have been disrupting the peaceful life of the toiling people of these regions for some time. They have been laying mines, plundering people's property, committing highway robbery and killing defenseless Muslims. People become tired of their actions and showed great hatred and indignation for them. The people patriotically sided with the heroic armed forces and security organs at the time of an operation which resulted on 15 August in the punishment of a large number of mercenaries for their shameless actions in the Enjil and Godzara Districts. A total of 41 of them were captured, and 14 items of various types of American weapons, 2 binoculars, 3 motorcycles and a large amount of ammunition were seized from them by the heroic armed forces.

The spokesman added that on 17 August, a large number of these mercenaries in Siashan, Herat Province, were eliminated; 10 of them were captured and the armed forces seized (Dashaka) Russian antiaircraft gun, 3 machineguns, 2 rockets, 5 Egyptian Kalashnikovs, 38 items of light weapons, 11 antitank mines, 40 handgrenades, 10 kg of explosives, propaganda leaflets and criminal documents.

Similarly, on 16 August a large number of murderers were punished for their shameful actions in the Bagram District, Parwan Province and Qarabagh District, Kabul Province, by the vigilant armed forces and revolution guards. Thirty-two of them were captured, and 99 items of various types of weapons, 5 antitank mines, and criminal documents and propaganda leaflets as well as 2 kg of hashish and the equivalent of 1.49 million afghanis in foreign currency were seized from these criminals.

GANDHI CONFIRMS PAKISTANI TENSION-EASING PROPOSALS

BK190716 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] New Delhi, 19 Aug (AFP)--Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi today confirmed that Pakistan had made some proposals to India towards easing tension between the two countries but cautioned her own country against being trapped by them.

Mrs Gandhi said this while answering questions in the lower house of Parliament whether Pakistan had proposed a lower level of military balance or a mutually agreed balanced force reduction on their common western border.

"Some such proposal, not exactly in those words perhaps, was mooted (by Pakistan)," she said.

NATIONAL HERALD SCORES BUCKLEY F-16 STATEMENT

BK181140 Hong Kong AFP in English 0435 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Aug (AFP)--Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's party newspaper today strongly criticised the U.S. decision to cut down delivery time of F-16 aircraft to Pakistan and warned President Ronald Reagan that India would take "appropriate measures" to meet the "threat thus posed."

"The intense haste with which the USA is pushing F-16's and other lethal weapons to Pakistan would make even its friends smell a rat.... The implications of the double talk are far reaching for Indo-American relations," the NATIONAL HERALD said in an editorial. The newspaper asked the American people to realise the lasting damage that is being done to the Indo-U.S. relations by the latest U.S. decision.

"India will of course draw the appropriate conclusions from all this, but there is time for Mr Reagan and his advisors and most importantly the people of the United States to realise the damage being done in our relations."

The HERALD editorial was in reaction to United States Under Secretary of State James Buckley's Bangkok statement that efforts were being made to cut down delivery time of the F-16's aircraft to Pakistan.

Other Indian newspapers also commented on Mr Buckley's statement which was widely reported in the Indian press yesterday. The independent daily TIMES OF INDIA called its editorial "F-16's on the Quick." "There is no longer any room for doubt about the Reagan administration's anxiety to hasten the supply to Pakistan of F-16's warplanes.... Mr Buckley's words are bound to be music to Pakistani ears," the paper said in an editorial.

100 ARRESTED DURING ANTI-ORDINANCE DEMONSTRATION

BK170738 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] In New Delhi, police rounded up a group of demonstrators who raised slogans outside the prime minister's residence last night. They were protesting against the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance. Police said about 100 demonstrators were arrested. They include Suresh Ram, son of Jagjivan Ram.

HOME MINISTER DENIES CABINET LINK WITH CIA

BK180316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The home minister, Zail Singh, denied in the Lok Sabha yesterday a report in a section of the press that a union minister has links with the CIA. In a statement just before the House adjourned for the day, Zail Singh described the press report as baseless.

AKALI LEADER TALWANDI ARRESTED, SENTENCED 17 AUG

BK181303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Deputy Chairman Shyamlal Yaldav today informed the Rajya Sabha about the arrest and conviction of Jathedar Jagdev Singh Talwandi, an Akali member of the hours. He said that according to information received from the commissioner of police, Delhi, Talwandi has been sentenced to 1 months's imprisonment on charges of defiance of prohibitory orders.

Talwandi, along with 100 Akali volunteers, was arrested yesterday outside Parliament House for violating prohibitory orders.

TAMIL NADU CHIEF MINISTER CALLS ON GANDHI

BK190320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Excerpt] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, M.G. Ramachandran, yesterday called on the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and urged her to secure protection for the Tamil-speaking people in Sri Lanka. During his 30-minute meeting with Mrs Gandhi, Mr Ramachandran said that the Tamils had been the worst victims in recent violence that erupted in Sri Lanka. He said government should take some action to infuse confidence among them.

SPOKESMAN DENIES CHARGE OF ANTI-INDIA CAMPAIGN

BK181145 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] An official spokesman in Islamabad has described the allegation of the anti-India campaign by Pakistan as completely baseless and without any foundation. He was commenting on the Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's address in Nairobi at the meeting of the Indian heads of missions in Africa.

According to an All India Radio broadcast, Mrs Gandhi, while talking to the envoys, expressed concern over the persistent anti-India campaign mounted by Pakistan.

The spokesman said: On the contrary, Indian leaders have been persistently referring to war clouds in their public statements. They have also objected to Pakistan's defense acquisition even though in the joint press statement issued during the Indian foreign minister's recent visit to Pakistan, both sides agreed that each country has the sovereign right to acquire arms for self-defense.

The spokesman said that Pakistan stands committed to the normalization process and would like to develop its relations with India on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, noninterference and mutual benefit. The official spokesman pointed out that the media in Pakistan is also guided by the same consideration.

BRIEFS

MEDIA DELEGATION TO CHINA--A three-member media goodwill delegation led by the chairman, Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation [PBC] and Pakistan Television Corporation [PTC] left Islamabad this morning for Beijing on a 10-day visit to China. The delegation includes the director general of PBC and the managing director of PTC. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 16 Aug 81 BK]

BARTER TRADE WITH PRC--Preliminary talks between China and Pakistan on commodity exchange under the barter trade agreement were held in Gilgit. Both sides agreed to exchange commodities worth 3.9 million rupees each way. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Aug 81 BK]

BARTER TRADE WITH USSR--The list of goods to be exchanged between Pakistan and the Soviet Union under the barter agreement has been officially announced. Under the agreement, Pakistan's exports to the Soviet Union will include cotton textiles, readymade garments, semi-tanned and tanned goatskins, spectacle frames, carpets, cotton yarn and thread and footwear. The goods to be imported from the Soviet Union include equipment and spares for the steel mills, equipment and spares for the oil and gas development corporation, earth moving and road building equipment, vehicles and tractors. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Aug 81 BK]

HIJACKED GUNBOAT ENTERS FRENCH TERRITORIAL WATERS

Gunboat Heads for Marseilles

NC181128 Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Marseilles, south France, 18 Aug (AFP)--The French-built Iranian gunboat hijacked by an anti-Khomeyni commando off Gibraltar last Thursday, today entered French territorial waters, port authorities said here.

The boat, the Tabarzin, was seen heading toward Marseilles, reliable sources said.

It was hijacked when in convoy with two other missile patrol boats en route from the French port of Cherbourg to Iran.

The Paris-based Azadegan opposition movement, claiming responsibility for the seizure, said the Tabarzin would be the seat of the Iranian government-in-exile.

40 Disembark

LD181444 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The Iranian patrol boat Tabarzin entered Marseille's port a short time ago. It is now at customs post No 68. The commando group has left in inflatable dinghies and the patrol boat is at the moment being emptied of its cargo of weapons and ammunition.

(Hughes Gerard) reports: All this took place just off the Chateau d'If, in view of Marseilles. A patrol boat of the Marseilles customs authorities approached the Iranian patrol boat Tabarzin. Probably after negotiations the occupants, the 40 Iranians--that is, the 20 civilians and the 20 sailors who captured the patrol boat--were transferred to a French customs patrol boat in small inflatable dinghies. This took some time and now, in fact, the Iranian patrol boat, the Tabarzin, has entered the port of Marseilles into customs post No 68, a very boxed-in part of the port, a spot which is very, very difficult to reach and which is protected by two bridges. This was probably done to prevent it from making another escape while in custody.

What is going to happen to these 40 people who have been transferred to the French customs patrol boat? Well, it is thought that they will first of all be taken to a frontier post--(?to) the air and frontier police. Then, second, they will probably be questioned by someone from the diplomatic service, and then--well, we do not know. Also unknown is the fate which awaits the Tabarzin--will it be returned to Iran or will it be kept for some time in France? These points remain a mystery.

Hijackers Asked To Leave

NC181640 Paris AFP in English 1633 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Paris, 18 Aug (AFP)--The French Government today asked the hijacked Iranian gunboat Tabarzin to leave French territorial waters after the transfer to French naval vessels of all crew members requesting to return to Iran.

The gunboat, which entered French territorial waters off Marseilles earlier today, had stopped several hundred meters offshore as crew members left the boat in inflatable craft and were taken aboard a French escort ship and a customs vessel.

In a joint communique, the Defense and Foreign Ministries said:

"Late this morning, August 18, the Iranian gunboat Tabarzin asked to be refueled in the port of Marseilles. French authorities refused. Meanwhile, a certain number of Iranian sailors belonging to the crew of the gunboat asked to be picked up by the French national navy in order to return to their country.

"French authorities then made certain that these sailors were transferred in order to guarantee their security.

"At present, these operations are continuing and about 30 sailors have been or are being taken aboard the corvette Georges Leygues.

"The French Government has reiterated its request to the Iranian gunboat to leave the territorial waters as soon as the transfer is completed."

Hijackers Refuse To Leave

NC181657 Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Paris, 18 Aug (AFP)--Hijackers of an Iranian gunboat refused to leave Marseilles on orders of the French Government and threatened to blow up the vessel, informed sources said here today.

French authorities refused to refuel the Tabarzin, whose tanks were running low.

Gunboat Towed to Toulon

NC190730 Paris AFP in English 0723 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] Toulon, southern France, 19 Aug (AFP)--The Iranian gunboat Tabarzin, seized last Thursday by Iranian nationalists on its maiden voyage from a French shipyard, arrived at dawn today at Les Sablettes, near here, towed by a French Navy tug.

After overnight speculation that the commando had agreed to abandon the Tabarzin on being taken under tow, several members of the pro-shah group appeared on the bridge of the vessel at 8:30 a.m. (0630 GMT) as it lay at anchor off this beach on the Saint Mandrier Peninsula, four kms (three miles) from the major naval port of Toulon.

The Iranians appeared on deck as a French Navy launch drew alongside. After the two crews talked for 15 minutes, the French vessel withdrew. Another launch kept sightseers at bay.

Naval authorities have refused all comment, but France is expected to repatriate the Tabarzin's crew, which remains loyal to the Tehran regime and was taken aboard a French naval vessel yesterday afternoon.

The conditions demanded by the commando, claiming allegiance to the nationalist group Azadegan, were not clear. But French authorities were believed amenable to any request for political asylum.

During negotiations last night, as the Tabarzin stood off the port of Marseilles--guarded by a frigate, the Georges Leygues, two police launches, a customs launch and a helicopter--the commando at one stage agreed to leave the gunboat on condition that a French Government representative would meet with them.

However, they later asked vainly that the Iranian crew be returned to the Tabarzin, presumabley as they were unable to manoeuvre the gunboat.

The Tabarzin arrived off Marseilles early yesterday afternoon and soon mystified both naval authorities and casual observers with its manoeuvres.

French authorities ignored a threat to blow up the vessel, and in late afternoon the crew members and four officers left the Tabarzin. The captain and first officer were held by the commando during negotiations.

The Tabarzin was seized off Gibraltar as it and three sister ships headed for Iran from the channel port of Cherbourg after France agreed to deliver the vessels to Iran late last month.

Toulon Commander Meets Commando

LD190838 Paris Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Excerpt] On board the missile-launching patrol boat Tabarzin, there are still members of the commando group which took it over. They made a brief appearance on the deck this morning when a navy tug came alongside the starboard side of the boat. After 15 minutes this tug departed and returned to the entrance of Toulon port. The leader of the commando group has just been received by the commander of the Toulon base.

Commando Makes Statement

LD182121 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] At the beginning of the afternoon an Azadegan commando announced that they had come back to return the patrol boat to France, that the patrol boat had merely been borrowed from the shah of Iran and that, quite kindly, they had come to return it to France. It was a lie since the commando now demand to leave. Listen, however, to the spokesman of the Azadegan movement who was interviewed by one of our reporters, (Thierry Bourdin), early this afternoon. He lied in saying that the patrol boat would be returned to the French.

[Begin recording of unidentified Azadegan spokesman] The Iranian Azadegan commandos wanted to show the whole world that they are capable of overthrowing Ayatollah Khomeyni and that they will struggle to the end. [Words indistinct] returning the patrol boat. It was a (?maneuver) to show actions to come which will be even more efficacious. There are many nationalist groups such as [those led] by Shapur Bakhtiar, Dr Amini, [words indistinct] and other nationalists who help us and we are together. Our partisans number 35 million Iranians. They are really tired of the Khomeyni regime. We have many friends among officers of all ranks within Iran. We speak on behalf of the people and it is the people who direct our movement. [end recording]

Commando Leader Named

NC190832 Paris AFP in English 0824 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] Toulon, southern France, 19 Aug (AFP)--French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said in Paris on his arrival for a weekly Cabinet meeting that the commando had talked with Vice-Admiral Jean-Paul Orosco, commander-in-chief of the port of Toulon and of the French Mediterranean fleet.

The nationalist movement Azadegan has identified the commander of the group that seized the Tabarzin as Kamal Habibollahi, admiral of the Iranian Navy under the late shah.

After their talks, the five khaki-clad commandos aboard the Tabarzin turned the vessel out to sea and stood about 300 meters (yards) from the Alsacien, the tug which had brought it here.

The other French Navy boats left the scene.

The Tabarzin remained about 800 meters (yards) off Les Sablettes beach, with French national police boats circling it to prevent newsmen from approaching.

Asylum Said To Be Considered

NC190819 Paris AFP in English 0804 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] Paris, 19 Aug (AFP)--France is studying the legal grounds for granting political asylum to the Iranian nationalist commando that hijacked a French-built gunboat on its maiden voyage to Iran last week, External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson said today.

The gunboat Tabarzin was this morning anchored four kms (three miles) outside the major southern naval port of Toulon after being taken in tow last night by a French naval tug.

The gunboat--hijacked off the Spanish coast--would be "returned to its owners" if the commando agreed to surrender it, Mr Cheysson added.

Mr Cheysson, in Paris from the southern resort of Biarritz for today's weekly Cabinet meeting, said the main issue was whether the hijacking had contravened French laws.

Musavi Interview

LD191836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] PARS, quoting AFP, reports that the Iranian naval craft Tabarzin today entered the French port of Marseilles, and that the 12 passengers on the craft--it is not accurately known whether they are members of the crew or those who hijacked the craft--gave themselves up to the French authorities. REUTER referred to those who gave themselves up as the hijackers, whereas reports carried by other news agencies do not accurately identify them. It is possible that the ones who gave themselves up are loyal to the Islamic Republic. The 12 passengers, after several hours of talks with the French authorities, gave themselves up and were then transferred to a French customs vessel. Mr Musavi, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an interview with our correspondent, provided details. We now draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] The news agencies today reported that the Iranian naval craft, hijacked by the monarchists, had berthed in the French port of Marseilles today. Apparently the passengers have sought political asylum. What is your assessment of this issue?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. First, I would like to say that the events which took place are, on the one hand, really a mark of the bankruptcy of the Mafia-type policies of the United States. We pointed out earlier that the CIA had a hand in this business, and we still insist on this. On the other hand, this adventurist act has once again put France to the test. Granting asylum to pirates undoubtedly amounts to legalizing terrorist actions throughout the world's high seas. Well, it is natural that the first effects of such a situation would entangle the very countries themselves.

Of course, this action also reveals the European countries' inability to safeguard security on their own seas. Just think how, on the shores of some countries which are, so to speak, powerful, which enjoy huge arsenals, and constantly talk of human rights and such things, a ship is hijacked in broad daylight! But worse still than this experience is the fact that the adventurism of Morocco's support for this issue is far too obvious for us to discuss it.

But, anyway, what concerns us is whether France will or will not grant asylum to these people. If France grants asylum it will amount to legalizing piracy.

And, naturally, if France does not hand over these pirates to Iran, if France does not arrest and hand them over to Iran, in effect it would be giving the go-ahead for attacks on all its shipping lanes, on the open seas and in its coastal waters! For there is no reason why tomorrow another group should not emerge that would attack the ships of France and other countries.

We [illegible] that the scope of French human rights is big enough to enable France to give shelter to such criminals as the Rajavis and Bani-Sadrs. Under the pretext that the French authorities have not yet received the Iranian Government's documents enabling them to carry out investigations or to arrest Bani-Sadr and Rajavi, France has not yet given us a formal reply as to what it intends to do with these two people. However, we do not know whether this range of human rights is big enough to include pirates. At any rate, we are awaiting developments.

[Question] Yes. Could you please tell us whether you have taken any steps toward its retrieval? [question as heard]

[Answer] Today we asked the French charge d'affaires to give us an explanation, but he did not have any accurate information on this issue. And at the time, the reports we had were inadequate. Reports were reaching us that the ship was coming close to the port of Marseilles. Then the charge d'affaires went to get us an answer which would, naturally, reflect France's position. Immediately after clarification of this state of affairs we will make this request [for its retrieval], and we hope that France will at least behave sensibly in this connection. Otherwise, well, we will know how far the scope of this issue extends, whereby a government could grant asylum to pirates! [end recording]

OFFICIAL ACCUSES MOROCCO OF SUPPORTING PIRACY

LD181252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Citing a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, PARS reports that the Moroccan Government has announced that the hijacked Iranian naval vessel had been hidden in Casablanca, following threats by the hijackers to blow up the port, and that 48 hours ago after refueling it sailed for international waters.

According to the report, the spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry said that the important point is that Morocco had to date stated that it had no knowledge of this act of piracy, and that it did not know where the said naval vessel was. In any case, Morocco which started and supported piracy, with CIA cooperation, after one hundred years at international level [as heard], has now realized the grave consequences of this support, and wants to cover up its action in any way possible.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: We are certain that Morocco has had knowledge of this hijacking for many days; and the request by that country for the exit from Morocco of the official responsible for safeguarding Iran's interest, 3 days before the hijacking, could testify to this.

He said: The world governments and nations should beware that the superpower America with the help of its agents is trying with all its might to destroy security in international waters and to extend its domination over these regions. Creating a lack of security in international waters would definitely have adverse repercussions; many countries would suffer from the outcome if this is not prevented and if such actions are not condemned.

We consider the action of the Moroccan Government in granting safehaven to the hijacked Iranian naval vessel, even on a temporary basis, as has been confirmed by the Moroccan Government, as full support by Rabat for pirates, and we strongly condemn it.

NVOI ACCUSES CIA OF INVOLVEMENT IN HIJACKING

TA190628 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Acts of Piracy of the Aggressor America"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: It is said in a statement by our homeland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the hijacking of Iran's missile-launching vessel by the American counterrevolutionary minigroup by the name of Azadegan that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was directly involved in this act of piracy and that, like other plots by world-devouring America, it will not remain unanswered. Our homeland's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Musavi, in response to questions pertaining to the piratic action by the American minigroup of the traitor Aryana with the all-out assistance and aid of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, rightly pointed out that imperialist and Zionist mass media and news agencies deliberately kept silent on the statement by our homeland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the hijacking of the Iranian vessel, refraining from publishing it. He added that in such conditions the all-out and extensive revelation of the recent plot of the great Satan and other plots of this sworn enemy of the revolution is very crucial and important.

Our country's minister of foreign affairs is correct in stating that the imperialist mass media and news agencies of world-devouring America and its allies, in accordance with their natural hostility toward the Republican system and Iranian revolution, refrained from publishing the statement by our homeland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the hijacking of the Iranian vessel and are attempting to portray the revealing details in the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran as unimportant. However, it is also a fact that it was only the mass media and news agencies of the member countries of the steadfastness front and socialist states, particularly the Soviet Union, that brought to the attention of the people of the world the facts pertaining to the piratic act by the counterrevolutionary minigroups associated with the United States, and condemned it. The least expectation of all the true forces of the revolution from our country's officials is that simultaneously with exposing the conspiracy of silence by imperialist and Zionist mass media in connection with this piratic act, they should at the same time inform the people of the fact that it was only the mass media of the member countries of the steadfastness front and socialist states that condemned this act and brought the contents of the statement by Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the attention of the people of the world.

As Imam Khomeyni has repeatedly said and pointed out, world devouring America does not desist from hostility toward the Iranian revolution and the system of the Islamic Republic. For 2 and 1/2 years we have been and continue to be witnesses to the accuracy of this statement by the imam. Many government figures and officials of the revolutionary authority, particularly many of the committed deputies of Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly, have repeatedly drawn the attention of the struggling Iranian nation to the indisputable fact that world-devouring America is the sworn enemy of the Iranian nation's glorious revolution and its gains, and that its primary goal is weakening and overthrowing the system of the Iranian Republic.

Both the true forces of the revolution and committed officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran have rightly emphasized many times that the revolutionary authorities and the liberated Iranian nation should not ignore for one moment the struggle against this sole, principle foe of the Iranian revolution, the aggressor America. It has been repeatedly stated from the rostrum of Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly that, despite the attempt of the liberals, the American Maoists and other foes of the revolution--who by concocting an imaginary enemy for the Islamic Republic of Iran are striving to save the great Satan from the blows of the independence-seeking Iranian people--the slogan "Death to world-devouring America!" should be the current slogan of the revolutionary authorities and the liberated Iranian people.

Fortunately, following the expulsion of the traitor Bani-Sadr and some of his American associates and colleagues from revolutionary authority, we have been encountering, especially in recent times, less attempts to save the great Satan and pave the way for his return. However, it is a fact that under conditions when the true forces of the revolution, whether religious or nonreligious, and the committed officials consider the further revelation of the plots by world-devouring America as the main duty of the revolutionary authorities and the struggling Iranian nation, there are still certain individuals who are striving in various forms to save the great Satan and divert public opinion.

As the hijacking of revolutionary Iran's vessel by counterrevolutionary elements and minigroups associated with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was not the first plot of the great Satan against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, undoubtedly it could also not be the last. The true forces of the revolution, while condemning this joint plot of the CIA and the counterrevolution, declare that America does not desist from hostility to our revolution, and that struggle against this sole, principle and bloodthirsty foe of the Iranian revolution and its allies is the duty of every patriotic, liberated Iranian.

KHOMEYNI SPEECH ON DUTY TO SAFEGUARD ISLAM

LD181550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to a group of revolution guards commanders, trainee teachers and radio and television employees on 18 August at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran in Tehran--recorded, duration 50 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The service of our teachers who are responsible for educating our young people and children is invaluable and their responsibility is great.

The jobs of those who work for the Voice and Vision of Iran, both those who run (?Islamic) societies and others, are also important, and these people play a role in this respect to make radio and television an education center. Everyone listens to "The Familiar Voice" [program for Iranians living abroad] no matter where they are, and it is up to those of you who run this program to fill it with righteous qualities. These are necessary jobs for the Islamic Republic. The job in itself is noble and involves great responsibility.

Ever since the revolution began the dear brothers in the guards corps and those who are their commanders throughout the country have had their origins in Islam and in the nation, and they have defended this republic, advancing this movement. Their work is admirable, very admirable, and their responsibilities are great. Within the corps discipline should be maintained, personnel should obey orders from above, the appropriate plans made by their councils should be followed, and the personnel should consider themselves obliged to be soldiers of Islam. Everyone should maintain discipline and obey the commanders. Otherwise, if this chain of command does not exist, God forbid, the corps will be unable to achieve its main objectives. This point should be observed not only by the guards corps personnel but also by the armed forces and gendarmerie.

From the very beginning you, the nation, stood before all with clenched fist, saying "Neither East nor West," we will go neither to the East nor the West; we have our independence; we have our freedom according to Islam; and we want the Islamic Republic. Thank God, we have been successful to date and have eradicated oppression and cruelty from your country. Those people who were the basic elements of oppression and plunder have packed up and gone. Even if some remain, they will soon go.

All of us, all our nation, all our armed forces, all strata of our nation, throughout our country should be aware and prepared to safeguard the Islamic Republic which has so many enemies. Today all governments--governments and not nations--are trying to topple the Islamic Republic so that no matter what it becomes, it at least is non-Islamic. That is because they cannot tolerate Islam, which is based on justice, according to which the highest official is equal to its lowest official. Its president is equal to a bazaar trader before the laws of Islam. Those in higher offices might even be expected to carry heavier burdens. Such a government cannot be tolerated by those powers that are used to suppression and plundering. So you have brought a regime to power; you have implemented a doctrine in this country which is opposed to all deviationist doctrines. The people who have gained such a miraculous achievement should withstand these unpleasant events, incidents and plots hatched from all corners against our country.

Of course, you should not believe that those who conspire against us are very powerful. They are like flies reaching the end of their lives; they are flying in circles and taking their last breath. Like dying flies they are trying to do something. These acts are nothing. Those who were noteworthy went away, were defeated or were destroyed. The 2,500-year-old monarchical regime with all its power and support was not able to withstand a Muslim nation committed to Islam. These few minors, these children who cooperate with these corrupt people who make these deceived children perform acts of sabotage, are like dying flies trying to make a final effort before death. They are not worth taking into account. Our nation should not believe that because these people have success in killing a number of people, no matter what the stature of those killed has been, then, God forbid, our nation might be defeated. Our nation is vigilant (?and alive). There are people who are prepared to do anything and sacrifice anything for their country. It is not like [word indistinct] that when the leader is eliminated the whole thing disintegrates.

Strengthen your ties with God Almighty and fear nothing. Even if this country is bombarded and you also are killed, it is not important, it is just a country and [words indistinct]. You know that right now the biggest countries are for various reasons the United States and then the USSR. One or two people are killed every minute in the United States, where the United States [words indistinct]. You enjoy the support that the United States does not have, but other atheist countries do not enjoy this support either.

Do you know of any other country where in a period of 2 to 2 and 1/2 years such uniformity is established and all the things a country and a government needs are realized? Iraq, despite all that is said about it, despite all the support it has from corrupt powers, does not have a constitution. A group, a party, has taken over the country and is using oppression, force and suffering to maintain its oppressive rule, and even (?15-20) years after coming to power this group still does not have a constitution.

Our army is part of us, the guards corps is part of us, our armed forces are part of us, and the brothers with these forces work together through thick and thin. What can anybody do in this country when the situation is like this? [passage indistinct]

A group is sitting in Paris saying they are going to leave for Iran. Let them come. If they can do something, why did they leave? The person who fled claims he has sacrificed martyrs. We know you, the nation knows who you are. This group claims it is united; it claims to have ways to return and it is coming back. The nation should know this is just drivel. But despite all this it (?wants to come to power). One should not overlook American conspiracies. These people count for nothing in themselves. If they did count, their circumstances would be different. [passage indistinct]

The United States, whose power you have seen, who plundered Iran's oil and resources, was kicked out of our country. You should not forget that this power has connections and intends to do certain things. As long as you believe in Islam and as long as you stand firm they will be able to do nothings. America would not embark on a military occupation of Iran from America itself, but it intends to use these elements to do its sabotage. The plan is to get these persons who have gathered in locations outside the country to do its work. Our nation should be careful and maintain its Islamic stand, believing that the nation is for good and for Islam. The nation should know that if it stands firm and each person considers it his duty to safeguard our country and his brothers, no power will be able to do anything.

What is important is that you should stand firm, you should be in charge and consider the government as a part of yourselves. You should not sit and wait for the government or the army to do all the work. The army has a duty; you and I have a duty; the government has a duty; teachers have a duty and [remainder of sentence indistinct]. Everyone should safeguard Islam. It is our duty to note and report any suspicious comings and goings or any conspiracies.

It is our duty to defend ourselves and to kill and defeat those who are attacking us on our borders, even if they are Muslims. It is not that we are picking a fight with them. We want every one to live in peace. We want all the people, all Muslims and non-Muslims to live in peace. But this does not mean that if someone attacks your home and invades it you should say nothing because you are a pacifist. Just as oppression and cruelty are forbidden, yielding to cruelty and oppression is forbidden also. Defending the property, wealth and the country of Muslims is obligatory. We are acting according to our obligations. Our country is acting according to these obligations. Those on the front line and behind the front line are acting according to these obligations. If someone intends to throw a bomb and is then arrested, imprisoned or even killed, this is an act of defense, an act to eliminate corruption, to fight corruption. The person committing such an act is corrupt, not you who are fighting him.

As long as you are present, as long as the guards corps, the army and the committed self-sacrificing Muslim nation are present, this republic will be alive and these sabotage activities will amount to nothing.

May God grant you prosperity and health and [words indistinct] and make the country of Iran victorious. Peace be upon you.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES RAJA'I, OTHERS 17 AUG

GF171224 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning received President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, who submitted a report to his eminence on latest national developments.

After the meeting Raja'i said: Consultations were conducted with the imam on coordination among the three branches, which is one of the duties of the president of the republic. I asked the imam for appropriate directives. His eminence issued comprehensive instructions. Mr Raja'i added: During the meeting discussion also dealt with the administration of the Foundation of the Oppressed.

The imam also received in separate audiences PARS Director General Kamal Gharrazi and West Azarbayjan Governor General 'Ali Asghar Ebrahimi.

RAJA'I CHAIRS MEETING OF GOVERNMENT-GOVERNORS

GF181205 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] A joint meeting between the government and governors from all over the country was held today at the Prime Ministry under the chairmanship of President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i. Governorate issues were dealt with during the meeting. President Raja'i made a speech at the outset of the 3-hour meeting. Prime minister Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar also made a speech on current national issues.

CABINET HEARS REPORT ON U.S.-HELD ASSETS TRANSFER

LD181206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 19 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Cabinet held its first session this morning, chaired by Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar. During this session, which started with the recital of verses from the Koran, the form of holding Cabinet sessions and also the organization of the Cabinet committees were discussed and decisions were made. Mr Musavi, minister of foreign affairs, and other ministers then submitted reports on international, social and political affairs which were followed by a debate on internal issues in light of plots by foreigners and their agents who are trying to create chaos and disorder by assassinating people and creating an atmosphere of terror.

Then the governor of the Central Bank of Iran submitted a report on the assets receivable by Iran from the United States the crediting of a portion of these assets to the Islamic Republic Government's account.

Central Bank Announcement

GF190546 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] The Iranian Central Bank governor has announced that Iran has withdrawn another $2.05 billion of its assets in the United States. This amount was transferred to the Netherlands Bank yesterday. He added that $1.05 billion of this amount has been transferred to the Iranian Central Bank governor. The remaining $1 billion will be kept in the Netherlands Bank until financial disputes between Iran and the United States are settled by a panel of arbitrators.

Bank Governor Comments

LD182236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent, the governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Mr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, gave some explanation about the transfer of another $2.05 billion of Iran's assets from the United States, which was deposited into account No 3 in the Netherlands Bank yesterday. We draw your attention to this conversation:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Nurbakhsh, there are reports today about some Iranian assets being transferred from the United States to Iran. Could you, as governor of the Central Bank, please tell us about this?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you are aware, the second stage of transferring Iranian cash assets from U.S. financial institutions should have been completed by 19 July. Briefly, these sums include the assets of the Central Bank and other Iranian institutions such as the national [word indistinct] and Iranian banks.

This was supposed to be transferred by 19 July in accordance with an agreement signed in the Netherlands Bank on opening account No 3. Account No 3 is an abreviation and the amount was to be transferred from [word indistinct]. Around $1 billion was supposed to remain in account No 3 as a guarantee, and the rest of the money, estimated to be around $1.05 billion, was to be transferred to an Iranian account.

In general, this transaction was carried out, and fortunately we succeeded in transferring another $1.05 billion of our assets to an Iranian account by signing the agreement on opening the account yesterday. This was the second step in connection with the transfer of Iranian cash assets.

[Question] Previously, the talk was that for [words indistinct] $2.5 billion, the United States would keep $1 billion as a guarantee of undertakings by Iranian firms and return $1.5 billion to Iran. But the figures you give are somehow different. What is the reason?

[Answer] The difference is mainly related to interest rates. This is one of our points of difference with U.S. banks. In fact, the first issue to be raised in the meeting of the arbitration commission will be related to this difference (?in calculation). On the basis of the interest rate employed, the amount will vary between $200-300 million. Therefore, it is generally arranged to raise this point as one of the first issues in the arbitration commission.

Generally, during our (?discussion) with the American [word indistinct] there were three important differences of opinion. The first was related to the interest rate for the sums left in the Netherlands as the guarantee account. The second was related to immunity [masuniyat] of this account from the point of view of law; that is, this account should be operational and no one should be able to freeze it. And finally, the third issue was related to the cost of maintaining this account and the interest rate. it was agreed to refer these to the arbitration commission which was formed in the Netherlands, and they will make the decision.

We believe the interest rate on this $1 billion, which comes to something around $200 million a year, should be returned to Iran because this $1 billion belongs to and is still possessed by Iran. The United States believe this interest should be added to the same account, in order to increase the value of the guarantee. However, we do not agree with this, and the arbitration commission will clarify it.

In connection with the problem of legal immunity, the multilateral agreements signed between Iran and the Netherlands; the Netherlands and Algeria, and the Netherlands and the United States, give full immunity to this account from every point of view and nothing can endanger it.

I deem it necessary to explain here that the United States changed its stand during the discussion. This was caused mainly by the pressure exerted by U.S. companies on the U.S. Congress during the discussions. By some spurious calculations, it had come to the conclusion that the U.S. companies had to wait a long time before their dispute was solved in the arbitration commission, and they were not happy with this. Thus, they exerted a lot of pressure to either increase the number of arbitrators on the arbitration commission, or provide a greater guarantee to the United States by filling this account. Our point was that we would act only in accordance with the Algerian declaration; that is, having three arbitrators and increasing the number only if they believed there was a need.

As for the financial guarantee, we also said that under no circumstances would we increase the guarantee beyond the figure determined by the Algerian declaration. However, the United States did not succeed in making us accept its points. It was agreed that the problem of the interest rate should be discussed and finalized in the arbitration commission.

[Question] What future actions should be taken to return Iranian assets?

[Answer] Our first action is to hold discussions with U.S. banks in connection with [word indistinct] nonsyndicate banks, which will take place in London. We estimate that Iran will recover other sums during these discussions.

[Question] How much, do you think?

[Answer] We think Iran will gain around $500-600 million in this connection.

[Question] How long will the $1 billion remain in account No 3 of the Netherlands Bank and by what date [words indistinct] are they permitted to present their (?defense)?

[Answer] In general, there are around 1,700 to 2,000 claims. Of course, there are claims on the Iranian side as well. This amount will remain until these claims are dealt with either by the arbitration commission or through discussions.

[Question] Thus, there is no determined date?

[Answer] That is right. There is no predetermined date. However, it will be exactly like an investment and if we succeed in the arbitration, the interest gained by this account will belong to Iran.

[Question] Please, let us total up from the start of the financial dispute [word indistinct]

[Answer] As a whole, as you know, in the first stage around $7.9 billion, or something around $8 billion from Iranian cash assets in U.S. institutions and banks, was transferred to Iran. Out of this amount, around $3.6 billion was given to the United States for syndicate loans and $1.4 billion was left for settling accounts, that is, the same amount which I said was agreed for payment to [word indistinct] in the second stage to settle accounts. And the rest, which was around $2.9 billion, went to Iranian accounts. And out of this amount, in the second stage, around $2.5 billion, that is a total amount of more than $10 billion, has been transferred to Iran so far. This includes all our cash assets. [end recording]

OFFICIAL VIEWS FOREIGN TRADE, ALGERIAN TREATY

LD170848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Mr 'Azizi, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs head of economic affairs, has stated in an interview with PARS the ministry's views with regard to economic matters. Answering a question about economic and trade relations established with countries within the Eastern bloc and the effect they might have in cutting our dependence on the West and reaching self-sufficiency and ultimately military, political, social and economic independence he said it is obvious that according to the policy of "neither East nor West" that we always try not to be particularly inclined to any of the blocs. But concerning the establishment of economic relations with the Eastern bloc, as you say, I think this is at a level that can be described as logical and rational. However, our general line of policy is not to create any dependence on any groups, Eastern or Western. He added that as regards self-sufficiency, we try to absorb technology instead of consumer goods and generally, we are trying to meet long-term needs so that in the long term, by importing technology from these countries, we might be able to reach the self-sufficiency we are seeking.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs head of economic affairs, talking about the establishment of relations with other countries, added: The determining factors in our economic relations with other countries hinge upon a number of points. First, they should have fewer ties with the superpowers and should be independent. Second, they should not aim at colonizing Iran and imposing their own political and economic views on Iran. Third, they should be prepared to buy as many goods from us as the Islamic Republic of Iran exports to them.

Answering a question about how much the United States has acted upon the Algerian treaty and implemented its articles, and about Iran's property in the United States and what the Government of the Islamic Republic or Iran has done recently, he said that action on the treaty is left to the ministries and government organizations concerned. The Coordination Bureau basically plays a coordinating role among these ministries and organizations. The United States acted on its undertakings immediately after the signing of the Algerian treaty. Its last undertaking was to cancel the injuction issued to freeze Iranian assets and properties in the United States and other countries. In this connection, some Iranian deposits in U.S. banks, which were deposited in the Federal Reserve Bank, have been transferred to Iran. He added that of course not all Iranian deposits in the Federal Reserves Bank have yet been transferred to Iran, the main reason for this being the necessity that the Iranian Government open an account in a foreign country so that this money can be deposited in that account. The opening of this account should be approved by Iran, Algeria and the United States. Finally, he said that the opening of this account in Netherlands took longer than expected but during the next few days the transfer of the money to this account will be finalized.

JAPANESE CARGO SHIPS PURCHASED FROM GREECE

LD151032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] In a PARS interview, the deputy head of the Plan and Budget Organization explained the reasons behind sending an Iranian delegation to Greece to purchase cargo ships. He reiterated that the economic mobilization of the country was formed after the start of the Iraqi-imposed war upon Iran in order to mobilize economic resources to counter the economic sanctions and other limitations of war.

In view of the annual import of 10 million tons of goods arriving through the country's ports this headquarters, after the necessary investigations, decided to increase the 1.7 million shipping tonnage of the Islamic Republic. For this purpose, and after a final investigation, an Iranian delegation comprising the shipping managing director, representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, the Plan and Budget Organization, the Iranian Central Bank and three naval captains, all of whom were plenipotentiary representatives of their respective organizations, was dispatched to Greece to implement the approved plan of the economic mobilization headquarters, which was originally presented by the shipping organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The political deputy of the Plan and Budget Organization, who himself was a member of the delegation as the representative of the Plan and Budget Organization, commented on the manner in which these ships were purchased, saying that during this trip the delegation paid cash for six cargo ships made by the Japanese ship-building company of Hitachi and sold to a Greek company. The capacity of each of these ships is 35,000 tons. With the arrival of these ships to our country's ports, the shipping capacity of the Islamic Republic of Iran will increase from 1.7 to 2.5 million tons per year.

He added that, according to international standards, each country must handle half of its import capacity through its sea ports. Commenting on the delivery date of the ships, he added that the first of these cargo ships is being handed over at a European port. It is hoped that within the next 2 and 1/2 months the rest of them will also be placed at the disposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The deputy of the Plan and Budget Organization added that these ships were purchased for a total sum of around $110 million; 10 percent of that sum was deposited in a bank as the guarantee of purchase, so that if the Islamic Republic of Iran changes its mind it is paid to the seller.

Commenting on other talks held between the Iranian delegation and officials of the Greek Government, the political deputy of the Plan and Budget Organization said that we discussed barter transactions between the two countries, and during two meetings with officials of the Greek Ministries of Commerce and Industry and Energy, the Iranian delegation pointed out that the Iranian Government would like to pay for the ships and service work with oil; this proposal was welcomed by the Greek officials and it was agreed to make the necessary decisions on this matter after investigations and final study.

MO'EZZI GIVES DETAILS ON BANI-SADR ESCAPE

GF141911 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 13 Aug 81 pp 1, 7

[Report on interview given to AL-HADAF correspondent Ahmad ash-Shaykh by Air Force Colonel Mo'ezzi in Bani-Sadr's residence in Paris--date not given]

[Excerpts] The Iranian colonel who flew the plane that took ousted President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and the Mojahedin-e Khalq leader to Paris has said that the majority of the Iranian people and armed forces support Bani-Sadr. In an exclusive statement to AL-HADAF in Bani-Sadr's residence in Paris, Colonel Mo'ezzi disclosed the details of the exicting escape from Iran. He refrained from mentioning other details so as not to harm those persons still in Iran who collaborated with him in arranging the escape.

Colonel Mo'ezzi talks about his Iranian Air Force Boeing 707 being pursued by three Iranian warplanes. He said that Saudi warplanes also pursued his plane and that Iran had asked Syria to pursue him with its warplanes and shoot down his plane while he was over Turkey.

The colonel was asked to provide the details of the exciting escape in the plane, and he explained: "Our escape is still a secret. They are still speculating in Tehran and are unable to find any answers. Those who helped us from inside will not say anything. When we contact our friends in the air force, they express gladness. They are not afraid to speak with us and want us to return. What I can say about this adventure is that after taking off, I contacted the Mehrabad Airport control tower and said that one of the plane's engines had failed. When I was over northern Iran I radioed and said another engine had failed and asked that a helicopter be dispatched to rescue us. However, I gave them the wrong information on our altitude, and they became suspicious after the plane appeared on their radar screen. Three warplanes pursued us. I affirm that those who pursued us were not against us. I told them the plane was being hijacked and requested permission to negotiate with the hijackers. I then flew at high speed and approached Saudi airspace. The Saudis sent their warplanes to pursue us. While we were flying over Turkey the Turks did not know who was inside the plane. I told them that the plane was being hijacked, but I did not give them my specific destination. The last message I heard from Iran was one asking Syria to use its warplanes to attack us over Turkey. However, I changed course, knowing beforehand that the Syrians would not do anything against us. We then continued the trip to Paris."

I then asked Colonel Mo'ezzi about his military commitment. He said: "I am a Muslim, and I try to be a real Muslim. I joined the Mohahedin-e Khalq because they represent Islam. I believe they are true Muslims and represent the true concept of Islam that says there is no compulsion in religion and that there is no reason to execute our brothers and sons.

Mo'ezzi continued by saying: "Our country is experiencing hard and unusual times, and the army does not approve of the current situation. It is now in a war with Iraq. Just because it does not do anything does not mean it does not love the people. On the contrary, it loves its people and is fulfilling its duty of defending the country. Nevertheless, they fear the air force, because it is the weapon of the revolutionaries in the armed forces. The armed forces will support its actions. As a result, wide-scale arrests are being made in the armed forces."

Colonel Mo'ezzi concluded: "Approximately 80 to 90 percent of the people support Bani-Sadr. The clergy sent their men to the front with Iraq to watch Bani-Sadr and to ask about his popularity among the soldiers. They returned with bad news for the clergy after finding strong support for Bani-Sadr. We are against Khomeyni, because the ouster of Bani-Sadr was illegal."

BANI-SADR CALLS FOR FORMATION OF RESISTANCE GROUPS

NC171704 Paris AFP in English 1629 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Paris, 17 Aug (AFP)--Former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr today called for the formation of "groups of resistance" to the Tehran regime "everywhere, in the cities and the countryside" of Iran.

In a "statement to the Iranian people" released to the press here today, Mr Bani-Sadr continued the trend he began three days ago of breaking the silence which the French Government asked him to observe when it granted him asylum upon his arrival on July 29.

Mr Bani-Sadr has granted several interviews since the return late last week here of French nationals still in Iran when anti-French agitation erupted following his flight to Paris. Despite his new outspokenness, the French Government has not renewed its call for his silence.

In his statement, Mr Bani-Sadr castigated the Islamic regime for the vast wave of executions in Iran and charged that the Tehran government was "illegitimate."

"As we overthrew the regime of the shah without allowing the intervention of a foreign power, we must also bring this new despotism to its knees," he said, adding: "We must do it as quickly as possible."

Meanwhile, two representatives of an Iranian student group favorable to the Tehran regime met with a senior French Foregin Ministry official here today to transmit a letter condemning the presence in France of Iranians aligned with the former regime and "traitors to the new regime," implying Mr Bani-Sadr.

The letter also accused Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi, who was granted asylum here along with Mr Bani-Sadr, of directing "attacks in Iran" from his base in Paris.

The students' message coincided with an Iranian radio commentary today which accused the French Government and media of helping Mr Bani-Sadr and Mr Rajavi by allowing them to "makr appeals for murder and sabotage."

AYATOLLAH MAHALLATI DIES IN SHIRAZ 18 AUG

LD190430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Shiraz that this morning the holy thinker Ayatollah Hajj Sheykh Bahaioddin Mahallati answered God's invitation in the Namazi Hospital in Shiraz and after 87 years of a life of [words indistinct] passed away.

Free Voice of Iran Report

NC181619 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah [name indistinct] Mahallati, a staunch opponent of Khomeyni's regime and a great religious leader, has died in Shiraz. Our correspondent has reported from Shiraz that rumors are that His Eminence Ayatollah Mahallati might have been murdered in a plot hatched by Khomeyni.

His Eminence Ayatollah Mahallati issued a statement in February in which he strongly criticized the acts of Khomeyni's regime and described the behavior of the leadership of Tehran as anti-Islamic and against God. The text of Ayatollah Mahallati's statement was distributed in Tehran and other cities and the Free Voice of Iran carried this statement some months ago.

The Free Voice of Iran extends its condolences to all combatant and freedom-seeking Iranians on the death of this combatant clergyman.

MATERIALS ON ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS, OPPOSITION

Air Force Cadet Killed

GF171951 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Sa'adatshahr has denied the rumor that a roadblock was set up last night 3 km from the Sivand gendarmerie post. He also reported that on the same road one Behbehan air force cadet was killed and another was injured in a dastardly robbery.

The two cadets, Mohammad Asad Samani and Hoseyn N'emati Ahu'i, were traveling toward Tehran as passenbers in a white Peykan. Three km from the Sivand gendarmerie post the driver and two other passengers attacked them. Their cash, totaling 190,000 rials, was stolen.

In the shameless robbery, Cadet Ahu'i was killed by the driver and two other passengers and Cadet Samani was wounded. The driver and his accomplices fled the scene. Sivand and Sa'adatshahr gendarmerie personnel have undertaken the pursuit of the murderers.

1 Killed Near Kermanshah

LD171923 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, a car carrying brothers in the reconstruction crusade was hit by a counterrevolutionary RPG-7 on the Kamyaran-Kermanshah road, and one of the crusade brothers was martyred.

Bookshop Hit in Gorgan

LD171930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, two employees of the Maestro Motahhari Bookshop in Gorgan were severely wounded yesterday morning after an assassination attempt by two terrorists.

Following the attempt, the assailants were pursued by the brother guards and one of the assailants was killed. One pistol and some bullets were found on the dead assailant.

Guard Killed in Babol

LD171921 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the mobilization brothers in the Babol Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, while on patrol near (?Haftan) Street in Babol last night, became suspicious of two pedestrians and ordered them to stop. However, one of them fired on the mobilization team, martyring one of the brothers. Following the shooting, the (?local) people pursued the terrorists and arrested one of the assailants.

Guards Arrest Mojahedin

LD171756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Yazd has so far arrested 130 leading members and supporters of minigroups of warriors against God and rumormongers.

According to PARS, in recent days with the cooperation of the vigilant nation and with the efforts of the Islamic revolution guards of Gorgan, two meeting houses were raided and 31 members of the American hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were arrested. Two firearms, 21 rounds of ammunition, one 'Uzi machinegun, a number of explosive devices, a number of books, documents and the organization's pamphlets were seized.

According to a Central News Unit report, the Islamic revolution guards of Kazerun discovered a number of meeting houses. Explosive devices, a photocopying machine, electronic devices, books and other documents were seized and a number of people arrested. Those arrested were involved in the assassination attempt against Hojjat ol-Eslam Daneshju. According to reports, those arrested were also planning to assassinate Hojjat ol-Eslam Emani, Kazerun's Friday imam and the acting prosecutor of Kazerun's Islamic court. Those arrested come from the cities of Behbehan, Bushehr, Borazjan, Mamasani, Fasa, Shiraz and Kazerun.

Meanwhile, in the course of the last 2 months, a number of hypocrite supporters have called on the Kazerun Islamic Revolution Guards Corps headquarters and repented.

4 Mojahedin Executed

GF181600 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Excerpts] This afternoon four individuals guilty of corruption on earth, rebellion, and waging war against God and the masses were sentenced to death in Shiraz. The four--Mohammad J'afar Jazebizadeh, known as Mehran, son of Mohammad Rahim; Aziz Kholqi, son of Mahmud; Mohammad Keshavarz, son of 'Alem; and Akbar Izadi, son of 'Abdohoseyn--were sentenced to death by the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Court.

The first accused was one of the supporters of the so-called Mojahedin organization who, according to his own clear confession, had a role in sale and distribution of publications and pamphlets of the organization. He also acted as a guard for others selling the publications.

He had been arrested previously for participating in a clash and, following his release played a role in setting fire to the carpet shop of Seyyed 'Abdorasul Farshneshan in Vakil Mosque. Mohammad G'afar Jazebizadeh, together with two three-man groups, set the carpet seller together with millions of rials worth of carpets, cash and valuable papers on fire by throwing chemicals on them.

The others accused were guilty of the same type of crimes and participated effectively in the said operations. The four were found to be rebels, corrupters on earth and wagers of war against God for armed rebellion against the Islamic Republic of Iran. They received their just deserts.

15 'Hypocrites' Arrested

LD181250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] According to PARS, following persistent efforts by Ilam Islamic revolution guards, 15 members of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and the main perpetrators of the recent explosion in Ilam were arrested.

According to this report, after being interrogated, the said persons were handed over the the Islamic Revolution Court of Ilam. Also according to this report, those arrested were found to possess explosives and incendiary materials. It should be pointed out that three of those arrested are residents of Kermanshah who had gone to Ilam in order to plant the bomb.

Opponents Arrested in Qazvin

LD181336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that owing to the cooperation of the people and the efforts of the guards of Qazvin Islamic Revolution Committee, three communal houses belonging to hypocritical minigroups [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and the minority wing of Cherikha-ye Feda'i-y Khalq have been discovered in the last 2 days in various parts of Qazvin. In this connection, 9 persons were arrested, and 1 G-3 rifle, 19 rounds of ammunition, 1 homemade bomb, 1 complete photographic laboratory, a number of readymade Molotov cocktails and incendiary devices like nitroglycerine and several documents were discovered.

2 Mahabad Doctors Assassinated

LD181818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, this afternoon, terrorists affiliated with U.S. imperialism assassinated two doctors in Mahabad. One of the doctors, named Dr (Hoseyn Panahi) was a member of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Mahabad and joined his God when a bullet hit him. The other doctor, named (Abdallah Abrishami), was supervisor of the Red Crescent Hospital in Mahabad. He was wounded in the head by a bullet and was taken to Tabriz.

The assassination of these two doctors takes place at a time when the oppressed people of Mahabad are badly in need of doctors and when there is a real shortage of doctors.

9 Arrested in Kazerun

LD181752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the discovery of five communal houses by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Kazerun, a large quantity of explosives, ammunition, documents, files and electronic devices were seized.

Nine people were arrested. The arrested individuals were citizens of Behbehan, Bushehr, Borazjan, Nurabad, Fasa, Shiraz and Kazerun.

Journalist, Militant Killed

NC150811 Paris AFP in English 0806 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] Tehran, 15 Aug (AFP)--Youssef Deghat, a prominent Islamic journalist and militant, was shot dead by "terrorists" in the south Iranian port city of Bandar-e 'Abbas, the daily paper ISLAMIC REPUBLIC for which he worked said today.

Mr Deghat, a leader of revolutionary guards in the city, was on his way home by car on Thursday when he was attacked by several people, the paper said.

Mr Degnat was also a leading member of the Islamic Republican Party, which dominates Iranian politics, and an official of Friday prayers at Bandar-e 'Abbas.

Kurds Ambush Forces

(Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Bahdinani Kurdish 1400 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] We have the following gift for our people in Kordestan on the occasion of the 16 August anniversary: According to reports we have received, an enemy force from the Khosrow camp was dispatched to exterminate the Kurdish people in Kordestan. On 12 August, the force, which was supported by three tanks and two helicopters, was ambushed by the peshmerga fighters of martyr Naji of the (Qahraman) forces. A fiery 5-hour battle ensued between the peshmerga and the enemy force, resulting in the killing of 7 enemy troops and the wounding of (?30) others. The commander of the enemy force, Col (Kazim Samali), was wounded. The peshmerga seized 17 (3H) rifles, 3 revolvers and 1 jeep and destroyed 2 tanks and 1 vehicle. The peshmerga returned safely to base.

NVOI CRITICIZES SAUDI ARABIAN OIL POLICY

TA181644 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The OPEC Conference and the Obstructions of the Saudis"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: On the eve of the OPEC conference which is to be convened in order to review and adopt decisions regarding the reduction in oil production by OPEC countries, Saudi Arabia has embarked on new maneuvers. Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Shaykh Yamani, has even threatened OPEC member countries that if they do not accept that country's oil price proposals he will not participate in the conference. Yamani said in a recent interview that Saudi Arabia will continue to produce 10.25 million barrels per day, and added that this was, allegedly, the only successful way to fix a single unit price for oil. The issue is that most OPEC countries, in view of inflation affecting the United States and Western countries' currencies and the increase in the exports of Western countries, fixed the price of their oil at the latest OPEC conference at approximately $40 per barrel. However, Saudi Arabia adopted a subversive policy against the OPEC countries and to the benefit of the oil cartel. Thus, the Saudis are placing their oil at the disposal of the oil monopolies at about $32 per barrel. The logic of most OPEC countries for the need to increase the price of oil to at least $40 per barrel is a logic that is obvious to anyone acquainted with the basics of economics and faithful to his country's interests.

Despite the clamor being raised by the imperialist mass media about the alleged enormous increase in the price of oil the fact is that the proportion of the increase in the price of export goods and the Western countries inflation far exceeds the rate of increase in the price of oil by OPEC countries.

Moreover, all are aware, and it has also been confirmed by figures published in Western newspapers, that in the face of the relative increase in the price of oil by OPEC countries not only has there been no decrease in the enormous incomes of the plundering oil monopolies, and above all U.S. monopolies, but these incomes have increased more than ever. For this reason most OPEC countries have been and are insisting on increasing the price of their oil in relation to inflation of foreign currencies and the increase in the price of the export goods of Western countries. It seems that the logic of OPEC countries for the need to increase the price of oil is completely understandable to any realistic person.

However, in the face of this realistic logic of most OPEC member countries, Saudi Arabia continues to resort to obstinacy and stubborness in accordance with its military, economic and political dependence on world-devouring America, and actually endangers the interests of the oil-producing nations of developing countries. In implementing its oil policy, which in fact is the oil and neocolonialist policy of the United States and the oil cartel, Saudi Arabia utilizes the weapon of increasing its oil production, and consequently of increasing the supply of oil in world markets. The first and last word of Mr Shaykh Yamani--this middleman of the oil monopolies--is that OPEC countries should lower the price of their export oil to a so-called balanced level for a long period, and it is only in such a case that Saudi Arabia will reduce its oil production.

Western newspapers associated with the oil cartel are attempting to purport that the existence of an oil glut in the consumer oil market is not the result of an increase in Saudi Arabia's oil production, rather it is the result of a decrease in the consumption of oil by consumers. Such sophistry cannot deceive even a naive person. If in fact the rate of oil consumption in the world market has declined, it is not clear why the oil cartel encourages the puppet regime of the Saudis to keep the level of their oil production at more than 10 million barrels per day.

Saudi Arabia's oil policy--which has been dictated to the Saudi leaders by the oil cartel and is being implemented by Yamani, Aramco's veteran middleman--is a number of Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region. These newspapers write that Saudi Arabia's policy to increase oil production has exposed the Arab's economy and political power to danger. The AL-KHALIJ newspaper published in Ash-Shariqah in the United Arab Emirates writes that the situation in the world oil market directly threatens the Arabs, including the Arab oil-producing countries. This same newspaper writes: We, ourselves, by depriving Arab leadership of even the idea of the possibility of utilizing oil as a means for exerting political pressure, have indirectly limited our political decisions. AL-KHALIJ calls on all Arab countries to convince those who are responsible for this situation--meaning Saudi Arabia--that all the programs of their economic development are facing certain obstacles that could have an impact throughout the entire world. AL-FAJR, another Arab newspaper, published in Abu Dhabi calls on Arab countries to lower their oil production to as much as half the present level.

Oil-producing OPEC member countries rightly believe that their oil resources are transitory and that they should not waste this national wealth for the sake of satisfying imperialist plunderers, foremost of all world-devouring America. These natural riches should be exploited in the most economical way toward establishing a national economic and technological base and toward the development and welfare of society and the people. The hand of te oil monopolies should be cut off from the oil resources of the developing OPEC member countries. Despite the subservience and the treachery of the Saudis, observers believe that the majority of OPEC members can and must defend their interests and national sovereignty against the plunderings and plots of the oil cartel and world-devouring America by preserving unity.

SRI LANKA

MINISTER CALLS ON PRESIDENT TO END MOB RULE

BK171252 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Colombo, 17 Aug (AFP)--Minister of Rural Industrial Development S. Thondaman called on President J.R. Jayewardene today and urged him to take measures to put an end to what he called "mob rule" in many parts of the country.

Mr Thondaman, who is also president of the Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC), representing about 500,000 plantation workers of Indian origin in Sri Lanka, expressed concern that the wave of violence was spreading "unchecked, causing untold misery and hardship" to various sections of the population.

The president, who told Mr Thondaman that he was prepared to take all necessary measures to ensure law and order, has since declared a state of emergency.

Meanwhile, a large number of persons of Indian origin stormed the Indian High Commission in Colombo and urged the high commissioner to request the Sri Lankan Government to provide them protection.

Some of those who sought the assistance from the Tamil-speaking Indian high commissioner were Indian traders from south India while some others were people of Indian origin holding Sri Lankan passports.

Reliable sources said that Indian High Commissioner Thomas Abraham had made representations to the Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry about the harassment of Indians by "hooligans."

Mr Thondaman, later in a statement, said he had told Mr Jayewardene that the violence had already resulted in the loss of many lives and millions of rupees worth of property. He had told the president that the law and order situation in the country had deteriorated as mob rule seemed to persist and the people were in a state of perpetual terror as to what would happen to them next.

He had said: "The very fact that even plantation workers, innocent of any political crimes, have been singled out for murder and mayhem, has created a feeling among the people that the hooligans covertly enjoy the patronage of powerful personalities."

Mr Thondaman had told the president: "If the government is unable to put an end to the mob rule forthwith, it should say so, so that the people themselves could take the necessary precautions for their safety and security of both persons and property."

"The time has now come," he said, "when the people exhausted of all their patience want an unequivocal end to this reign of terror by thugs."

NO INCIDENTS REPORTED SINCE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

BK181612 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The Security Council, which met this morning to review the general situation in the country, said no incident had been reported from anywhere since the emergency came into force yesterday. It, however, drew the attention of the public to the section of the public security ordinance with regard to the unauthorized possession of arms, ammunitions, explosives and other dangerous articles or substances for which the penalty is a jail term of up to 5 years. Looting and arson carries a death penalty while sedition and incitement are punishable with rigorous imprisonment.

PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS WITH TAMIL LEADER

BK190900 Hong Kong AFP in English 0844 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Colombo, 19 Aug (AFP)--President J.R. Jayewardene last night launched a fresh initiative to find a solution to the communal violence problem in Sri Lanka.

Supported by six ministers, the president held discussions with the leader of the opposition, Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, who is also leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF). Mr Amirthalingam was assisted by Mr S. Sampanthan, a member of Parliament of the TULF.

The two sides discussed the wave of communal violence in the country, the immediate problems of the minority Tamil community and the working of the recently constituted District Development Councils, which are expected to provide some measure of autonomy to the Tamil community in the development activities of the areas in the northern and eastern provinces dominated by them, authoritative sources said.

They agreed to meet again in a few days to continue the discussions, the sources said.

The new initiative came as the police and the armed services armed with new emergency powers fanned out of sensitive areas in the country to crush a two-week wave of communal violence.

The situation in the country will be the main topic of discussions when the Cabinet holds its weekly meeting later today presided by President Jayewardene.

SLFP HEADQUARTERS TAKEN OVER BY RIVAL GROUP

BK191121 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] The Maitripala Anura Bandaranaike group of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party took possession of the party headquarters at (Dali Road), Colombo, this morning. A special meeting of the Central Committee decided to suspend Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka from the post of general secretary and appointed Anura Bandaranaike, second MP from Nuwara Eliya Maskeliya as acting party secretary. The Central Committee meeting took up the position that the decision to empower Mrs Bandaranaike with authority to appoint party electoral organizers was illegal. Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka, according to the spokesman of the group, had acted in a manner aimed at creating division and destruction within the party.

After the meeting, the premises were locked up and the keys were taken away by Maitripala Senanayake and security guards of the group were posted at the premises.